Restructuring of JEE

978. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan to restructure the Joint Entrance Examination criteria;

(b) whether Government has taken any action to check the mushrooming of JEE coaching industry; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) Joint Admission Board (JAB), which consists of representatives from all the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), Indian School of Mines (ISM), Dhanbad and Institute of Technology – Banaras Hindu University (IT-BHU) as well as a representative of the Ministry of Human Resource Development, make recommendations in respect of matters relating to the Joint Entrance Examination (JEE). A Review Committee has been set up by the JAB to give its recommendations regarding factoring in of class XII results on a percentile basis while deciding admissions into IITs. Integrating of class XII results with JEE results, would help reduce the dependence on coaching. Variation in the results of various Boards would be taken care of by following the cut-off marks on percentile basis.

Setting up of schools under PPP mode

979. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has a proposal to set up 2500 schools under the Public-Private-Partnership policy;

(b) the details of this proposal and policy;

(c) what would be the financial contribution of Government in this scheme; and

(d) the role of Government in the management of such schools?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) The Government has decided to set up 6,000 model schools at the block level at the rate of one school per block as benchmarks of excellence. Out of these, 2500 schools are to be set up in Public-Private Partnership (PPP) mode in blocks other than educationally backward blocks. The modalities for setting up of these schools are yet to be finalized.

Vacant posts in universities

980. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of universities and colleges in the country as on October 31, 2007, State-wise;

(b) whether 30 per cent of the teaching and non-teaching posts in the country's Central and State Universities are lying vacant despite the efforts made by the Union Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor;

(d) the number of vacant posts of lecturers and non-teaching categories in the academic year 2008-09, university-wise; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to fill up all these vacant posts both in the Central and State Universities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Information in regard to Universities and Colleges is available in Library.

(b) and (c) Based on information collected by the UGC from a sample of 14 Central Universities and 40 State Universities, the percentage of vacancies in Central Universities for the category of Lecturers is 29%, for Readers 34%, for Professors 42% and percentage of vacant non-teaching posts in Central Universities range from 21% in Group 'D' to 28% in Group 'A'. In respect of State Universities, the status of vacant posts of Lecturers has been found to be 33%, for Readers 42%, for Professors 19% and in respect of non-teaching posts in State Universities, the vacancies range from 17% for Group 'D' and 27% for Group 'A' posts. One of the important reasons for posts lying vacant in State Universities has been the ban on recruitment to posts in States said to be due to lack of funds. Both, in respect of Central Universities as well as the State Universities, it may be generally stated that teaching as a career has been unable to attract suitable candidates due to comparatively more attractive remuneration in the other avenues in a growing economy.

(d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(e) The age of superannuation in teaching posts has been increased from 62 years to 65 years and further selectively till the age of 70 years so as to prevent depletion of qualified teachers. Revised package of Pay Bands, perquisites and other benefits has been implemented, making it more attractive than salaries etc. for Civil Servants. This is expected to make teaching as a career more attractive to the youth. The Central Government also impresses upon Stale Governments to lift their ban, wherever it is so, on employment of teachers and persons in non-teaching posts.

Schools and hostels in minority dominated districts

981. SHRI AHMAD SAEED MALIHABADI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of schools that have been established in the designated minority dominated districts of the country so far, district-wise;

(b) the number of hostels built therein specifically for the minority boys/girls, district-wise; and